

APPROVED: Meeting No. 23-83

ATTEST:

Helen M. Heneghan

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

MEETING NO. 21-83

June 6, 1983

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in work session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, June 6, 1983, at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor John R. Freeland
(arrived at 8:15)

Councilman Steve Abrams

Councilman Douglas Duncan

Councilwoman Viola Hovsepian

Councilman John Tyner, II

The Mayor in the Chair.

In attendance: City Manager Larry Blick; City Clerk Helen Heneghan

Re: Work Session

The Mayor and Council continued their review of the Capital Improvements Program:

TRANSPORTATION

T-12 - Ritchie Parkway: Seven Locks/Rockville Pike

The Planning Commission agrees with the reasoning for this shift of funds to Fiscal Years 1986 and 1987. The Mayor and Council made no change.

T-15 - Gude Drive: Southlawn/Route 28

The Planning Commission recommends that the project description should be expanded to indicate that the scheduling for this project is coordinated with Montgomery County's project for its section of Gude Drive. The Council agreed to this.

T-29 - Richard Montgomery Drive Widening

Councilwoman Hovsepian suggested moving it forward, Mr. Joe Cutro explained why it is placed in that year.

T-31 - West Montgomery Avenue/Van Buren Street

The Planning Commission recommends that the project description should be expanded to note that the City has coordinated the project with neighbors. Councilwoman Hovsepian asked why it is not being done in 1984 and staff explained. The Council agreed with the Planning Commission's comment.

T-32 - Jefferson/Rollins Intersection Improvements

The Council saw no advantage in moving this forward.

T-34 - Langbrook Place Cul-de-sac

The Planning Commission recommends that a note should be added to this project to indicate that the project will be coordinated with neighbors. The Council agreed to this.

T-35 - Brent Road; Calvert Road to 125 ft. East

The Planning Commission commented that a note should be added to this project to indicate that the project will be coordinated with neighbors. The Council agreed to this.

T-36 - Halpine Road/Halpine Avenue Improvements

The Traffic and Transportation Commission said if it becomes necessary to delay a project from FY 84 to FY 85 because of funding, construction scheduling, or other reasons this is the project that should be allowed to "slip". It presently appears that Metro will not begin operation until late in calendar year 1984. If that schedule holds or slips still more, T-36 can still be completed in FY 1985 with little or no interference to Metro activity. Planning and design for this project should remain in FY 1984. The Planning Commission recommends that the project description should be expanded to include a discussion of the impact of the hotel/office complex on this road. Traffic generated by this complex will increase the need for the proposed improvements. As this complex is opening in 1983, the project is essential and should be completed in Fiscal Year 1984. The Council agreed to separate the projects, to do Halpine Road this year, and do Halpine Avenue in another year, probably in FY 85.

T-37 - Roadway Spot Improvements

The Traffic and Transportation Commission commented that this project has excellent potential for eliminating hazardous roadway conditions, improving intersections, and the like. The staff should submit a list of candidate projects for Traffic and Transportation review. Also noted is that speed humps will be funded from this project. Traffic and Transportation criteria for the speed humps indicate that no more than 50% of the yearly allocation should be used for speed hump projects. The Planning Commission strongly supports this project and the rationale behind it. The Commission also endorses the idea of establishing a priority list of projects to be funded with this money. Mr. Blick distributed a list of projects to the Council which they approved.

T-503 - Monroe Street/Fleet Street Traffic Signal

The Traffic and Transportation Commission strongly recommends this signal be moved up from FY 1985 to FY 1984. This is not only important to the safety and efficiency of the intersection itself, but will also aid the flow of traffic rerouted by the proposed restrictions on Argyle Street. Furthermore, while the battery flashers at the intersection have certainly been helpful, they have not worked as reliably as an AC device (e.g., traffic signal) would. Battery replacement costs of \$75 per month are greater than the energy costs of a traffic signal (approximately \$65/month). The Planning Commission recommends that this signal is needed prior to Fiscal Year 1985. The intersection is a dangerous one and the traffic signal should be installed as soon as practical. Therefore, the project should be advanced to Fiscal Year 1984. The Council agreed to move this forward to FY 1984.

T-504 - Traffic Signal Upgrading

The Council made no change.

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T-806 - Park Road Sidewalk

The Council made no change.

T- - Cold Spring Road/Crestive Drive to City Limits

A new project, the extension of Cold Spring Road was distributed. This had been placed on this wish list by Councilman Abrams. Councilman Tyner asked if the reason for this originally not being cut through were known to the Council at this time. Councilman Abrams said those reasons will be brought out during the public hearing that will satisfy all the concerns. Traffic has become intolerable to the community as it exists now.

T- - Scott Drive Bridge Improvement

This was another new project brought forward to the Council.

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation advises that \$3,000,000 in Federal funds has been made available to replace deficient bridges within the County. Scott Drive has been formally categorized as a deficient bridge under the evaluation criteria of the Federal Highway Administration. It should be made clear that the bridge is not unsound or structurally deficient for its current use. Its deficiency rating is attributable to the substandard traffic capacity and potential hazard created by a one lane bridge serving two-lane approach roadways and, further, it is subject to flooding during heavy rain storms. As such, 80% of the reconstruction costs of the bridge may be available from the Federal Government. The remaining 20% would be funded by the City.

Program limitations include:

- 1) The available funding for all of Montgomery County is only \$3,000,000 and there are 12 bridges in the County which are eligible;
- 2) The funds must be expended within four years; and
- 3) The funds cover only bridge and minor approach renovation, not major roadwork.

The Council tentatively agreed to this project but suggested the Planning Commission look at this Wednesday evening and report back to the Mayor and Council.

Additional Projects

Councilman Abrams suggested that the Rt. 355 ramp removal be included in the FY 85 schedule and the funds be earmarked for State consideration. The amount of \$200,000 will be assigned to this project.

ENVIRONMENT

E-2 - Multi-Purpose Lake

The Council made no change.

E-4 - Woodley Gardens Park Dry Pond

The Council made no change.

E-5 - Anderson Park Dry Pond

The Council made no change.

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E-6 - Thomas Farm Dry Pond

The Council made no change.

E-9 - Wootton Mill Park Dry Pond

The Council made no change.

E-13 - Bogley Branch Dry Pond

The Council made no change.

E-15 - Rockerest Park Dry Ponds

The Council made no change.

E-25 - Dogwood Park Dry Pond

The Council made no change.

E-32 - Rockville Heights Dry Pond

Councilman Duncan asked if the neighborhood meetings are running smoothly. The Council said they are.

E-33 - Rockmead Park Dry Pond

The Council made no change.

E-34 - Maryvale Park Dry Pond

The Council made no change.

E-35 - Dry pond Maintenance

The Council made no change.

E-407 - Cabin John Outfall Relief Sewer - Phase III

The Council made no change.

E-411 - Watts Branch/Northwest Branch Relief Sewer

The Council made no change.

E-412 - Town Center Storm Drain Outfall

The Council made no change.

E-413 - Town Center Parcel 4A Sewer Relocation

The Planning Commission recommends that the project description should be expanded to clearly describe the circumstances of this project, i.e., that the City and developer will investigate the possibility of constructing the building around the line rather than relocating the line. This could result in a lower cost for this project. However, if this is not feasible, the project should remain in Fiscal Year 1984 in order that the City be ready to undertake it if the developer proceeds with his project. The Council agreed to this recommendation.

E-414 - Broadwood Drive Sewer Replacement

The Council made no change.

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HEALTH AND SAFETY

H-5 - Carr Avenue Transmission Main: Beall Ave/Forest Avenue

Councilman Tyner questioned if it were time to do another Pitometer study. Mr. Morningstar said it will be done in 1984 or 1985.

H-17 - Ritchie Parkway Transmission Main: Seven Locks/New Mark Commons

The Council made no change.

H-28 - Ritchie Parkway Transmission Main: Monroe/Rockville Pike

The Council made no change.

H-29 - Rockville Pike Transmission Main: Broadwood/Halpine

The Council made no change.

H-30 - Mannakee Street Water Main: Carr/Montgomery College

The Council made no change.

H-602 Street Lights: Various Locations

The Council made no change.

TOWN CENTER

TCP-7 - Pedestrian Bridge

The Planning Commission suggests that the project description be expanded to indicate that this project is timed to tie in with the schedule of the Town Center developers. The Council agreed to this.

TCP-9 - Intersection Landscaping

The Traffic and Transportation Commission commented that this project should pose no compromise to proper and practical traffic control. This project in particular, affects both the City's heaviest-travelled intersection, and one that will eventually be among the heaviest. The Commission requests that the plans for this project be submitted for this Commission's review in a timely manner. The Council agreed to this.

TCP-11 - Rockville Pike Streetscape Plan

The Traffic and Transportation Commission commented that this project should pose no compromise to proper and practical traffic control. The Commission requests that the plans for this project be submitted for the Commission's review in a timely manner. The Council agreed to this.

Councilman Tyner asked that the staff come back with an analysis of traffic counts and projections before and after the Falls Road interchange is built. Councilman Abrams said the Council of Governments TSM-1 is looking into that right now and is interviewing as well.

Having completed the review of the Capital Improvements Program, the Council moved to consideration of its Wish List.

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Re: Wish List

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1) Increase General Fund Surplus The Council agreed to postpone discussion of this item	\$200,000
2) Animal Control - rabies prevention and information program The Council agreed to this.	15,000
3) Replacement of Neighborhood Watch Signs (citizen request) The Council agreed to this.	250
4) Add Targets of Opportunity funding The Council agreed to this and suggested that the funds will be directed when the Mayor and Council encounters activities they deem necessary.	40,000
5) Add funding for annual Volunteer Recognition Night The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	4,000
6) Mail agendas free The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	350
7) Eliminate phone recording of agendas The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	N/A
8) Add funds for City's share of sign system (\$25,000-\$32,000) The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	30,000
9) Sample ballot mailing-use list of City residents registered in the County The Council agreed to this.	4,500
10) Increase pay for election judges The Council agreed to this.	2,240
11) Town Center Plan Implementation and seed money for an Economic Development Corporation The Council agreed the funding would be earmarked for Economic Development including Town Center Plan Implementation.	25,000
12) Add funding for band leader to meet with band leader in Chatham, Massachusetts This was deleted since the funding could be taken from Targets of Opportunity.	500
13) Wooden seal for Mayor and Council Chamber This was deleted and assigned to the Cultural Arts Commission for the \$1 per capita fund.	\$3,000 - \$4,000

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<u>Issue</u>	<u>Cost</u>
14) Holiday Street decorations This was deleted.	\$ 10,000
15) Lone Oak School grounds maintenance The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	6,500
16) Intern to work with Traffic Engineer The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	6,000
17) Enclave annexation - legal fees contingency The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	7,000
18) Repair of brick sidewalks and bus shelters (citizen request) The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	-0-
19) May Gala As a line item was deleted since the funding was found to be unnecessary.	90
20) Call-a-taxi program The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	250
21) Evening with Chairmen of City Boards and Commission The Mayor and Council agreed to this.	-0-
22) Possible lease of Rockville United Church property (citizen request) This item was approved with Councilmembers Abrams and Tyner voting nay.	5,000

 \$359,590 - \$360,000

Councilman Duncan suggested that money be placed in the budget to accommodate a contribution to the group purchasing children's automobile safety seats for low income people. The Council agreed this could be taken from the Targets of Opportunity at a later time when more information is provided.

<u>Other Issues</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1) Sister Cities Program This was deleted as a line item. The funding could be taken from the Targets of Opportunity if it were needed.	\$ 1,500
2) Affiliated Community Counselors This item was deleted.	10,000

Other Issues

Cost

- 3) Emergency Shelter - Stepping Stones

5.000

Councilman Abrams suggested \$10,000 be reserved for this fund and examined as the program gets older. After further discussion the Council agreed to set aside \$5,000.

- 4) Humanities Grant

Expenditure - \$ 11,410

Revenue — 10,060

Net cost - \$ 1,350

The City Manager explained that this is not necessary, since another method of funding had been found.

- 5) Requested increase in the Rockville Community Clinic Grant

24,000

The Council discussed this at length and it was finally agreed to approve the expenditure provided that the 5-year objective is to reduce the amount of City subsidy by 50%.

- 6) Additional 1/2 time position to assist tenants RHA.

9,100

The Council agreed that a person should be hired to be the City's representative with a positive attitude to improve the operations, work with tenants, management, the Housing Authority, the HOC, etc. It further agreed this person would be placed in the City Manager's office to retain the integrity of the position. It was the Council's feeling that \$1,000 a month would be necessary to obtain a quality program. \$12,000 was set aside for this.

Total

Expenditures \$86,016

Total

Revenues \$10,060

The Council discussed the surplus and it was the Mayor's feeling that since the City Manager had found that there would be a surplus at the end of this fiscal year, it would not be necessary to place \$200,000 in the fund. The Council did agree not to go below the amount suggested by the auditors and strive to attain that in the next 3 or 4 years. After further discussion, the Council voted to hold the tax rate at .90¢ with Mayor Freeland and Councilwoman Hovsepian voting nay.

There being no further business to come before the Council in work session, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m. to convene again in general session on Monday, June 13, 1983, at 8:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor.